

But in 1758 and 1763 the premium was as high as fifteen guineas per cent. "to return three per cent. for East Indian or Channel convey, five per cent. for West India convey and seven per cent. if with convey for the voyage and arrival." At other times the premium varied from seven to twelve per cent. with a like clause to return a proportional part if convey is taken, until 1782, when the premium was two and one-half per cent; and from 1787 to 1792, but two per cent.

These invoices contained, literally, an assortment of almost every conceivable thing for apparel and personal use, with not a few for ornament—diamonds, pearls, rubies, sapphires, emeralds, hump, steel, corals, grinders, window glass, crockery and China ware, ropes, empty bottles, powder and brass ware, hooks, felt hats, etc., etc.

Among the dry goods were many articles not known by the same name at the present day—alpaca, balladine (beating silk), death-heads (buttons), garis, gobsies, groat, muslinette, tadmans, spriggs, etc., etc. Linens were staple articles; the quantity was not only large, but the quality was through at least half a dozen numbers, with corresponding prices. Many of them are named as French, and some as Irish cloth, and while these are imported in large packages, we have now and then on the cotton Holland, No. 2, at fifteen and three-quarter pence, and "two per cent." at nineteen pence—evidently the commencement of that manufacture which has since nearly filled the civilized world—cotton shirting. Ribbons, like nails, are classed as four-penny, six-penny, ten-penny, etc., etc. Single ribbons (of only one color, probably), 80, cost six shillings and nine pence; 100, nine shillings; and 120, ten shillings. Four yards, No. 7, four pounds. Thread lace, No. 1, cost five and a half pence; No. 18, two, cost fifty and six pence. These are the wholesale prices in London, in sterling money. How much was added to convert them into our currency and how much was added for profit, we have no means of knowing. Some articles certainly did not stop short of one hundred per cent.

The books imported were entirely religious or scientific in character. At one time, twenty-one were on practical religion, and seventeen, including one on astronomy, on the improvement of the mind, were written by Doct. Watts.

Among articles partly useful and partly ornamental, knee buckles and shoe buckles held a prominent place among the men—as did "barry-corn neckties" and "London laced garters" among the women. Jewels, for music, marked distinctly the advance of the fine arts and one on improvement of the mind, were written by Doct. Watts.

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city is said to have been the first brick building erected in Norwich. It is not known when it was built, or by whom. Occupied before the Revolution as a public house, it was afterwards well known as an auctioneer's office. The building was destroyed by fire in 1792. In 1800, Ralph Bollen, of the hotel known as the Chelsea Coffee House, the Merchants' hotel on Main street, in the present Austin block, was built in 1797.

Church street was called Upper Church street. Here, in 1800, lived Samuel Bred, Nathaniel Peabody, Rev. John Tyler, and Dr. Lemuel Basswell. The principal householders on the west side of the river were Elijah Herrick, Jedediah Willett, Dewey, Bromley, Thomas Gavitt, Septimus Clark, Stephen Story, and Lathrop. All engaged in shipbuilding, or in some business, nearly connected with it. A rope walk had been established in West Chelsea in 1797.

East Chelsea, comprising everything east of Franklin square, was known as Swallow-all. There was no road to Greenville, East Main street was narrow and crooked, with wells, fences, and houses extending far into the present street. Franklin street and a well avenue formed the road to Lisbon. An editorial in the Norwich Courier of May 25, 1885, describes the coming up of this part of Chelsea as follows:

"The work of digging up both sides of Main street, east of the Wauregan, by two Aqueduct companies—though universally pronounced a public nuisance—has resulted in the discovery of certain relics of the elder day, which are not without interest. At the corner, by the Norwich Bank, some four or five feet under ground, was found one of the old wooden pipes laid in the year 1798, by the first Aqueduct company formed in this city, who brought water from springs in the rear of the present residence of Col. George L. Perkins. The pipe was in good state of preservation. Directly in front of our office, under the crosswalk, the men found a covered well about twenty feet deep, with eight feet of water, which was formerly used by the occupants of the old Lathrop house, which stood right in the center of the present street.

"It is within the recollection of many of our citizens when the ground all round the vicinity on the south side of East Main street was universally called 'Swallow all,' on account of the fact that the street was so deep, by the way, is good Dutch, with other peculiarities, give no very high opinion of the early culture to London and Bristol merchants in our invoice (1789) we find the following entry: 'The children's morocco shoes are two dozen short, as the count not procure any more in time' and in another (1784)—'You wrote for twelve large Bibles at thirteen shillings—there are none at that price. We have therefore sent six, of two sizes that come nearest to your price. The Bibles printed in Scotland we cannot send, as there is a penalty on their being sold in London.'

"The steady and majestic movement of the ship, the immense crowd of spectators, of this and neighboring towns, which occupied the surrounding wharves and eminences, the repeated huzzas, which seemed to raise the air, formed a scene never before witnessed in this place.

"The ship was immediately warped up to the Ship Yard wharf, from whence she took her departure.

"The interesting scene was honored by the presence of His Excellency Governor Trumbull.

"Her figurehead is a good representation of the illustrious statesman whose name she bears. It represents the Governor in the attitude of drawing his sword, as if in the act of defending the American flag, which is fixed upon his right side, resting upon the skirt of his coat, while his left foot is supported by the muzzle of a cannon, and his right arm is raised and supported by an elegant scroll. The carving upon her stern and galleries is believed to be of the finest work.

all lived where the court house now stands.

The western road to Chelsea Landing was also improved about this time, and a new section thrown open. On the corner for their mail. But in 1805 the postoffice of Chelsea Landing was established with Jacob DeWitt as the first postmaster. This change in the postoffice undoubtedly helped also to loosen the ties between the two settlements.

The first local newspaper, the Norwich Packet, had been started in 1773 by the firm of Robertson & Trumbull, their printing office being 'at the foot of the Green, near the Court House,' until July, 1775, when it was removed to a new building 'near the Meeting House,' which continued to be known for many years as Trumbull's printing office.

For nearly twenty years the Packet was the only Norwich paper; but in 1791 appeared the Weekly Register, the direct ancestor of the present Norwich Bulletin. The Register was a twelve-column, four-page journal, 10x17 inches in size, changing the next year to one of sixteen columns, the dimensions

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Twirl look as gay as they do.  
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Who look so flaming red, Sir,  
The Bull may drag his soldiers fine,  
I've often seen them dead, Sir,  
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The situation was considered very critical, and preparations had been made to meet it. In pursuance of orders from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the third regiment, composing the Third Brigade, had been closely inspected, and directed to hold themselves in readiness for service at a moment's warning. Signal pieces were erected on commanding points, the last of which, the Mace-Gonian, called for New London on April 4th.

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THE APPRENTICE SYSTEM.  
How Youth Were Bound Out to Service—Adventurers for Runaways—Which Disclose in What Extent or Disesteem They Were Held.

In a new land, where laborers and servants are scarce, everyone must do his part. There must be blacksmiths, coopers, shoemakers, mechanics everywhere. There were no trade schools, and hence desiring to learn a trade were obliged to serve an apprenticeship of from three to seven years before they were considered competent to carry on business on their own account. During the first years of their apprenticeship they received only their board in return for their services, living in the family of their employer, and often being given much kindly care and training.

In this way William Cleveland, the famous trade of silversmith from Thomas Harland, the watch maker, Benedict Arnold and Solomon Smith were apprentices of Doctors Daniel and Joshua Lathrop, in the first drug shop established between Boston and New York. Smith afterwards opened the first drug store in Hartford, while Benedict Arnold became a successful druggist in New Haven.

With many of these boys were capable and industrious, mastering their trade, and becoming prosperous business men, others were idle and dissolute, giving great trouble to their employers. In the latter part of the eighteenth century such advertisements as the following are often to be found in the newspapers, offering rewards ranging from nine mills to five

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"N. B.—Every able bodied man between 18 and 50 years of age will be accepted. Minors who enlist will be allowed four days for reflection, during which time they may withdraw if they choose."

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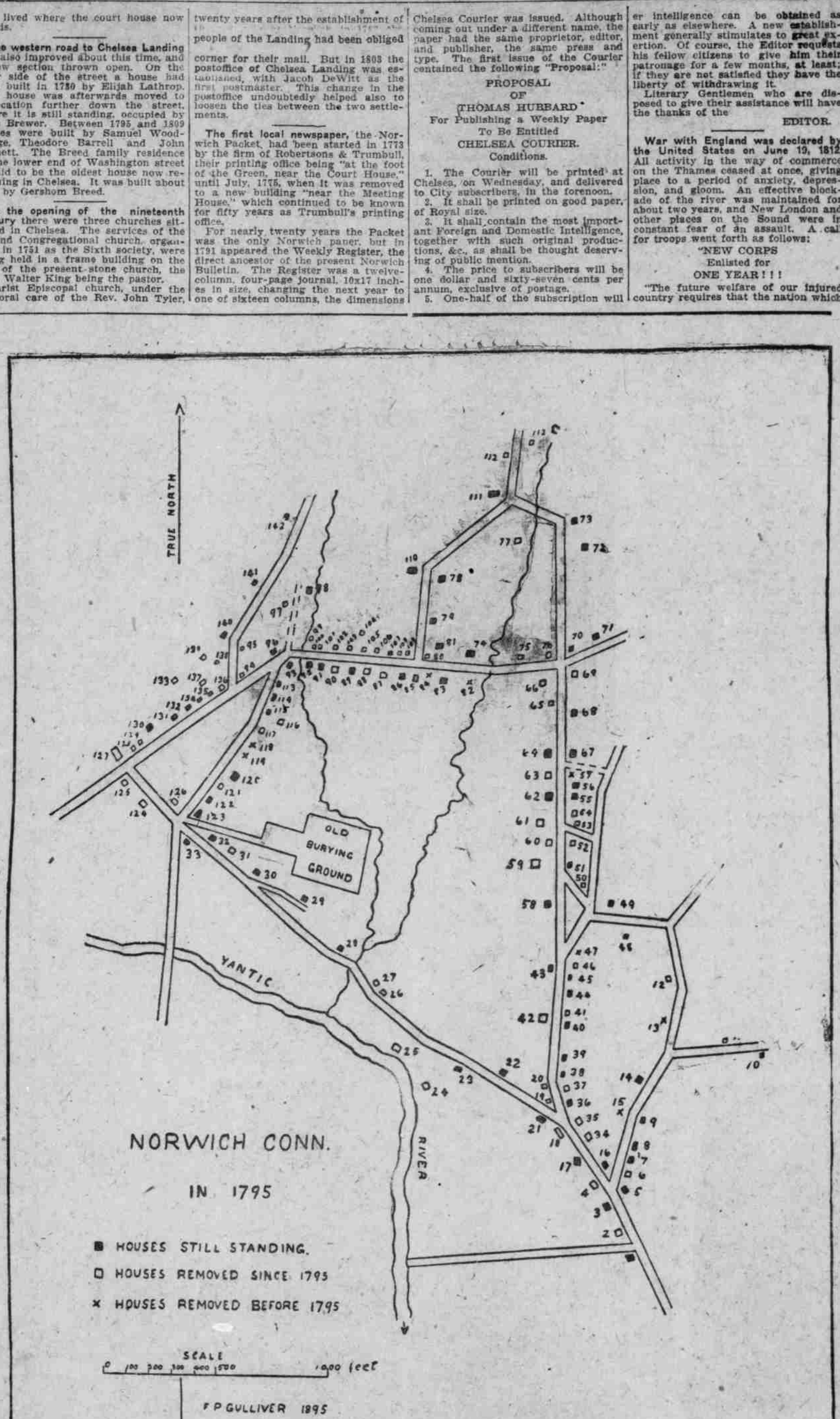
The situation was considered very critical, and preparations had been made to meet it. In pursuance of orders from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the third regiment, composing the Third Brigade, had been closely inspected, and directed to hold themselves in readiness for service at a moment's warning. Signal pieces were erected on commanding points, the last of which, the Mace-Gonian, called for New London on April 4th.

Although some of the manufacturing interests of Norwich had received an impetus from the needs of the time, the general business of the town had been thoroughly depressed. So much so, indeed, that it remained almost without growth or improvement for several years. From 1800 to 1820 the population increased only 25 per cent.

But during this time the era of steam navigation had commenced. The Norwich Courier, in its issue of October 15, 1816, announced: "2 o'clock p. m.—We stop the press to announce the arrival at this port of the new Steam Boat Company, Capt. Bunker." In 1817 a regular line of steamers sprang the old packet system, with its days of uncertainty, when a trip to New York was likely to consume the better part of a week.

THE APPRENTICE SYSTEM.  
How Youth Were Bound Out to Service—Adventurers for Runaways—Which Disclose in What Extent or Disesteem They Were Held.

## Norwich as Viewed from Sunnyside in 1853



occupied a church building situated on the lot now owned by the Trinity Episcopal church.

In 1800 a Baptist church was organized, Elder John Stebbins being ordained as the first pastor. The ordination service was held in the Congregational church, but a house of worship was raised by the society in West Chelsea and occupied the next year, although it remained for a long time unfinished.